Development and maintenance of rivers to save from degeneration

4418. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that major rivers in the country are in danger of drying and degenerating;

(b) whether it is also a fact that enormous extraction water with modern tube-wells from rivers and their basins have seriously caused the accelerated drying and degenration of rivers;

(c) what are the steps followed by Government for the development and maintenance of rivers to save from degenaration; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) Existing trend does not indicate any danger of drying up of major river. Necessary measures for conservation of rivers through pollution abatement works are taken up by the Ministry of Environment & Forests under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP).

Completion of hydel projects

†4419. SHRI VINAY KATIYAR:
SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Central aided hydel projects in various States of the country remain incomplete due to paucity of funds;

(b) if so, the details of such hydel projects, State-wise;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the cost of such projects in incessantly escalating due to their pendency; and

(d) if so, the details of steps being taken by Government for timely completion of such hydel projects?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) At present, no Central Sector hydel project in any State of the country is incomplete due to paucity of funds.

Completion of irrigation projects under AIBP

†4420. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision has been taken to complete several irrigation projects, under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme during the last Five Year Plans;

(b) if so, the number of projects earmarked for each Five Year Plan;

(c) the target of additional irrigation capacity expected to be created during each Five Year Plan under these projects; and

(d) the number of irrigation projects actually completed alongwith the extent of irrigation capacity created in each Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) In order to expedite completion of ongoing irrigation projects, the Government of India launched Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) during 1996-97 to provide financial assistance to States.

(b) to (d) Irrigation projects are included in AIBP on the basis of proposals submitted by the State Governments on year to year basis in accordance with AIBP guidelines in force from time to time and State-wise AIBP ceiling fixed by the Planning Commission in consultation with State Governments. A Statement indicating State-wise list of the major and medium irrigation projects included in AIBP, year of inclusion, year of completion of completed projects, on schedule and delayed projects, targeted potential under AIBP and potential created up to March, 2006 is enclosed.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.